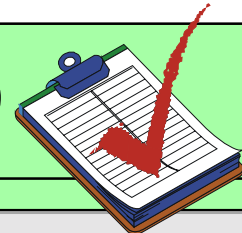


CHS CHECKUP



A publication by and for employees of the Kentucky Cabinet for Health Services

Dec. 15, 2001

NEWS BRIEFS

LAST CALL FOR FLU SHOTS

A **final** make-up day for flu shots will be Wednesday, December 19th, 9-11:30 a.m. and 1- 2:30 p.m. It will be in Frankfort at the History Center in Classroom A. Convenient parking is located at the train depot lot across from the center. Employees who didn't sign up in advance may go. Please wear appropriate clothing (sleeves easily rolled up).



TIP OF THE WEEK

Have a merry Christmas and a safe holiday. When picking a tree, remember that many artificial trees are fire resistant. Look for a statement specifying the protection. If purchasing a real tree, remember that a fresh one it will stay green longer and be less of a fire hazard. Check for freshness. A fresh tree is green with needles hard to pull from its branches. When bending a needle, fresh needles don't break. A tree that is too dry will loose needles when you bounce the trunk on the ground.

Also remember to buy safe toys for young children. Watch out for small parts and read the age recommendations on the package.

Sammons Is New State Long-Term Care Ombudsman

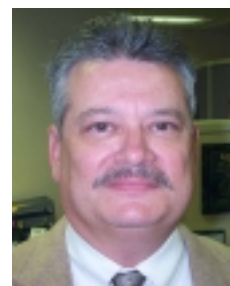
John Sammons is the new state long-term care ombudsman in the Office of Aging Services. He is the fourth person to hold this position since the beginning of the program in 1975.

He replaces Brenda Rice, who recently retired with 30 plus years of service to state government. The long-term care ombudsman program is mandated by the federal Older Americans Act and was created to investigate and resolve complaints made by or on behalf of individuals that reside in long term care facilities.

In Kentucky, the program covers nursing homes, personal care homes and family care homes.

Sammons holds a Masters Degree in Social Work and has over 26 years of experience with state government. He has served as a front line supervisor for the Department for Social Services and has spent several years in Policy Analyst and Specialist positions at the central office level. He has been involved

in policy development, legislative impact analysis, program development



Sammons

and administration, grant writing and grant management and budgeting. Sammons also has past experience with the former Commission on Human Services Collabo-

ration.

Sammons said his immediate goals are to continue to develop the current network of support for resolving complaints in long-term care settings and to provide direction and advocacy for the program statewide. Also, he plans to focus on making more information available to the public on community services that aid in preventing the need for long-term care and, information on how to select a nursing home when other alternatives are not an option.



CHS Employees Give \$97,029 to KECC

CHS employees contributed \$97,029 to this year's Kentucky Employees Charitable Campaign.

While that amount fell short of the previous year's total of \$107,636, it was more than what employees contributed in 1999, according to George Graham, deputy commissioner in the Department for Public Health and this year's coordinator.

Leading CHS with the largest amount of contributions was the

Department for Mental Health and Mental Retardation Services with \$59,853.

Graham noted the excellent improvement in donations from the Commission for Children with Special Health Care Needs under the leadership of Caroline Keisel. The commission contributed \$7,905 this year.

Thanks to all employees who made a contribution.



"...promoting and safeguarding the health and wellness of all Kentuckians."

Health Services Employees Complete GSC Management Programs

In an awards ceremony on Nov. 29, Gov. Paul Patton recognized state employees who had completed two management programs offered by the Governmental Services Center.

Several CHS employees were among those who completed the Kentucky Certified Public Managers program (CPM) or were awarded a Certificate of Management Fundamentals (CMF).

The 2000 Kentucky Certified Public Managers graduates are: Doug Holt, Medicaid; Carol Howard, Mental Health and Mental Retardation Services; Andrew Jones, Jr., Hazelwood; Fannie Louis Maddux, Western State Hospital; and Sarah Slack, Western State Hospital.

The 2000 Certificate of Management Fundamentals recipients are: Judy Bates, Office of Program Support; Alicia Bond, Western State Hospital;

Doreen Burks-Weathers, Public Health; Ron Cooper, Central State Hospital; Gayle Dunn, Western State Hospital; James Everman, Laboratory Services; Judith Prell, Hazelwood; and Marilyn Thomas, Western State Hospital.

The Kentucky CPM program, of which the CFM is the first phase, is one of 20 nationally accredited public management programs in the United States. The programs are geared toward managers of people, programs and projects or those individuals who demonstrate outstanding potential. The workshops cover such topics as process improvement, strategic planning, improving relationships at work, and organizational diagnostic tools and techniques.

For more information about the CMF or CPM, contact Ed Klee or Kathy Wade at 502/564-8170. ✓

CHS Intranet Is Six Months Old

The CHS Intranet (<http://chsnet:2001/>) has been available for CHS employees to use since June and has grown greatly since its initial release. Some of the more recent additions include:

- CCSHCN Intranet site
- Phone Lists (including Tadiran)
- Training



New sections are always being developed for the Intranet and will be announced, along with all other updates, on the Intranet's home page, <http://chsnet:2001/>. If you have any suggestions for new Intranet content, please contact the CHS webmaster at chswebmaster@mail.state.ky.us. ✓



Gov. Paul Patton welcomes actor-director Rob Reiner during the Healthy Babies kickoff event in Louisville on Dec. 4. The media campaign is aimed at improving the health of new babies. Reiner applauded Kentucky's efforts to improve the health of children.

CHS Communicator Wins Award

Gil Lawson, branch manager for the CHS Office of Communications, was recently awarded the 2001 Jennifer Schaaf Award.

The award is given annually by the Bluegrass Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists in cooperation with the Kentucky Association of Government Communicators.

Jennifer Schaaf, who died in 1998, was a successful and respected professional in state government communications who held positions in the Revenue and Finance Cabinets and the Attorney General's Office. The award honors her high standards. ✓



The CHS Checkup is a newsletter for employees of the Kentucky Cabinet for Health Services. Please direct contributions or comments to the Office of Communications, 502-564-6786. View newsletters at the CHS website at: <http://chs.state.ky.us/> Printed with state funds.

